

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 /018 R

DRAFTED BY OES/CP:RFSIMMONS,JR.:MCM

APPROVED BY OES/ENP/PO:CRNELSON

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P 280132Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

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FOR AMB. MARSHALL GREEN, COORDINATOR OF POPULATION AFFAIRS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: SPOP

SUBJECT: ANDERSON ARTICLE ON POPULATION

1. UNDER THE HEADING, "THE PERILOUS POPULATION EXPLOSION,"  
THE WASHINGTON POST, AS EXPECTED, TODAY CARRIED THE FOLLOW-  
ING SYNDICATED ARTICLE BY JACK ANDERSON:

"THE FINAL ARMAGEDDON WILL LIKELY COME, IN THE OPINION OF  
INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS, NOT FROM A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST BUT FROM  
THE SIMPLE CRUSH OF PEOPLE.

"NO LESS THAN THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL HAS LABELED THE  
RUNAWAY POPULATION GROWTH AROUND THE WORLD AS A 'THREAT TO  
OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.'

"THE COUNCIL CALLED FOR POPULATION REPORTS LAST YEAR FROM  
U.S. EMBASSIES IN 77 COUNTRIES. THEIR RESPONSES HAVE NOW  
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BEEN SUMMARIZED IN A GRIM INTELLIGENCE DOCUMENT.

"THE STUDY WARNS THAT THE SHEER MASS OF PEOPLE ALREADY IS  
BEGINNING TO STIFLE HUMAN LIFE ON THIS PLANET. OUR AMBASSA-  
DORS REPORT THAT UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS ARE RUNNING OUT OF  
FOOD TO SUSTAIN THEIR PEOPLE. LIVING COSTS ARE PLUNGING  
THESE NATIONS INTO DEBT UNTIL THEY ARE UNABLE TO FINANCE

THEIR OWN SURVIVAL.

"THE HUMAN ENCROACHMENT, LIKE A PLAGUE OF LOCUSTS, IS ALSO DEVASTATING THE LAND. 'A MAJORITY OF OUR EMBASSIES IN AFRICA, ASIA AND SOME IN LATIN AMERICA REPORT LARGE POCKETS OF DECLINING AGRICULTURE PRODUCTIVITY DUE TO WIDE-SPREAD SLASH-AND-BURN FARMING, OVERGRAZING AND OVERCROPPING,' THE STUDY ASSERTS. THE CAUSE: 'POPULATION PRESSURES.'

"THE SAME WARNING IS ECHOED IN AN AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT REPORT WHICH DECLARED URGENTLY THAT, UNLESS THE POPULATION EXPLOSION IS CONTAINED, 'THERE ULTIMATELY IS NO SOLUTION TO THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM.'

"THE POPULATION BOMB, WARNS THE INTELLIGENCE STUDY, WILL ALSO PRODUCE A POLITICAL EXPLOSION. IN MANY COUNTRIES, THE U.S. EMBASSIES PREDICT 'RISING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT, WITH COUNTLESS MILLIONS UNABLE TO EKE OUT A LIVING IN RURAL AREAS, JAMMING INTO ALREADY OVERCROWDED CITIES WHERE LIVING CONDITIONS FOR MANY ARE APPALLING.'

"THIS 'CAN ONLY SPAWN SOCIAL UNREST WITH SERIOUS POLITICAL AND EVEN POTENTIAL STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS,' THE STUDY STRESSES. BY THE YEAR 2000, FOR EXAMPLE, MEXICO CITY MAY BE THE MOST POPULOUS URBAN AREA IN THE WORLD.  
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"ONE EXPERT FEARS THERE MAY BE 60 MILLION MEXICANS FLEEING ACROSS U.S. BORDERS WITHIN THE NEXT GENERATION TO ESCAPE THE OVERCROWDING IN THEIR COUNTRY.

"YET THERE IS 'A WIDESPREAD UNAWARENESS OF THE ECONOMIC FACTS OF LIFE,' STATES THE REPORT, 'INCLUDING WISHFUL THINKING THAT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WILL AUTOMATICALLY RESOLVE THE POPULATION PROBLEM.' A DISTURBING 62 PER CENT OF THE NATIONS HAVE NO POPULATION POLICY AT ALL.

"FOOTNOTE: REP. FREDERICK W. RICHMOND (D-N.Y.) IS LEADING A MOVE IN CONGRESS TO DEAL WITH THE POPULATION PROBLEM."

2. AT PRESENT UNDERSTANDING, SIMMONS WILL NOT ACCOMPANY CONGRESSMAN SCHEUER TO ASIA. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RFSIMMONS,JR.:MCM  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009